

PENISTONE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S  
REPORT  
FOR 1898.

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PENISTONE :

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# PENISTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PENISTONE URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

In submitting to you my Report for 1898, I have to record an increase in the death-rate for the year. The total number of deaths at all ages was 48,—25 males and 23 females. Taking the estimated population at the middle of 1898 as 2,798 this gives a death-rate of 17.5 per 1000. This is an increase on the rate for 1897, which was 15.2, but is slightly below the rate for England and Wales, 17.6. In this total is included the death of a resident of Penistone which took place in the Workhouse. The death of a lodger, or temporary resident, from enteric fever, which occurred outside the district has not been included.

A large proportion of the deaths occurred at the extremes of life, there being 16 deaths under 5, and 11 over 65 years of age. 10 of these were under 1 year, while 3 were over 70, and 3 upwards of 80 years of age.

Diseases of the respiratory organs were, as usual, responsible for a considerable number of deaths, 2 being due to Phthisis, 1 to Whooping Cough, and 15 to other affections of the lungs and air passages. 7 deaths were attributed to heart disease, 3 to diphtheria, and 3 to injuries.

The infant mortality rate was also a little higher than that for the preceding year, as there were 10 deaths under 1 year, as against 9 in 1897, while the total number of registered births remained the same—85. This gives an infant death-rate of 117 per 1000, as against 105 in 1897, but this is still much below the rate for England and Wales, which was 161 per 1000.

Of the 85 births registered, 47 were males and 38 females, giving a birth-rate of 30.3, as compared with 30.7 for 1897, and a rate of 29.4 for England and Wales.

Sporadic cases of zymotic disease occurred during the year, but fortunately at no time did they threaten to assume an epidemic form, or to interfere seriously with the attendance at the schools.

There were 9 cases of diphtheria, 3 of which in children under 5 years of age proved fatal. Single cases of the disease were notified in March, May, and August, and 2 cases in each of the months of Sept., Oct., and Nov. There were 5 cases of scarlatina, and 7 of enteric fever, one of which (in a temporary resident) proved fatal after his removal from the district. There were 3 deaths from injuries, and 1 from accidental poisoning, inquests being held in each case. There were 2 uncertified deaths.



During the year 24 nuisances were reported, of which 19 were abated. The reported nuisances, I regret to say, form only a small proportion of those that continue to exist, and urgently require attention. The excuse generally advanced for doing nothing has been that the evils would be remedied as soon as the new sewerage system was completed, and it is to be hoped that this may be the case, and that a marked improvement may soon become manifest.

Amongst many other matters which demand attention may be mentioned the most unsatisfactory state of things that exist at Bridge End and Wentworth Road. Here there are 3 cesspools, one at the back of the respective properties of Mr. Rusby, J. Holmes, and W. S. Flowerday. These are constantly overflowing, especially in wet weather, as the surface water, and the water from the house-roofs is conducted into them. If they are emptied one day, they overflow the next in rainy weather, the contents eventually finding their way into the Don.

Near these, there is an accumulation of sewage from the group of houses at the foot of Bridge Street. This is conveyed under Wentworth Road, and forms a long open drain, previous to its discharge into the river.

At the back of the Wentworth Arms Hotel, there is a collection of sewage from the Hotel, and the adjoining row of cottages. This has accumulated on the surface of the ground at the foot of the railway embankment.

On the property of T. H. Bolton, The Green, there is an offensive cesspool within a few feet of the public footpath.

At Kirkwood, 4 new houses have been constructed without, so far, any provision for drainage whatever, cesspool or otherwise, and the fluid simply runs on to the surface of the ground.

The list of existing nuisances might be extended to great length, but a means of coping with them is now being provided, and will, it is to be hoped, ensure their early abolition.

During the year, 49 new houses of the cottage class have been built, and 54 new closets constructed, consisting of 48 covered privy middens, 2 water closets, and 4 waste-water closets. 4 sink-wastes have been disconnected and trapped.

2 samples of milk were taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, the analysis in both cases being satisfactory.

The condition of the slaughter-houses and milk-shops in the district may be looked upon as fairly satisfactory, considering that the buildings have not been constructed in accordance with modern views as to light, ventilation, and sanitary surroundings. There is, however, much room for improvement.

A new dairy factory has also been built, and will shortly be opened. It is to be hoped that it may prove a great success and a benefit to the farmers of the district.

The work in connection with the new sewerage scheme is being carried out in a very expeditious manner, and will (when completed) meet a want long felt in Penistone. The Council have determined to suspend their judgment in the matter of choice of methods by which the sewage shall be treated at the outfall, with a view to being in a position to adopt the plan which shall have been proved in practice to be the most effective and economical.

The necessity, or otherwise, for the new main sewer in Market Street and High Street, is a point on which there is much diversity of opinion, the chief objection to it being the additional expenditure it will entail. Apart from the question of cost, the new drain will be a very great improvement, as it will be used to convey the sewage matter only, which will thus reach the outfall in a form more concentrated and more amenable to treatment. Being of smaller calibre the new drain can be more easily and thoroughly flushed. The old one will be utilized to carry off the surface water, which in stormy weather would be more than the outfall works could cope with.

The important question of an Isolation Hospital for the Union has been receiving attention, and amended plans have been approved by the Hospital Committee, and are now in the hands of the architect, the original plans having been found to be too costly. The necessity for hospital accommodation of this nature is now, in view of the recent legislature as to vaccination, more than ever urgent.

Appended are the birth and death rates for the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**JAMES A. ROSS, M.B., C.M.,**  
**M. O. H.**

Birth rate: 30.3 per 1000.

Death rate—General: 17.5 per 1000.

Under 1 year: 117.6 „

Deaths from Zymotics, 3.

PENISTONE,

*March 11th, 1899.*

## TABLE C, 1898.

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### PENISTONE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—JAMES ALEX. ROSS.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—HENRY HANWELL.

#### WATER SUPPLY—

Quality—Good.      Action on Lead—None.

Any extensions or change during 1898?—No.

Any inadequacy in any part?—At Cubley, Schole Hill, and Gravels.

#### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

Extensions or improvements during 1898—New system in course of construction.

#### SCAVENGING—

Are the privy-middens, etc., cleansed by Sanitary staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?—By Sanitary Staff.

If scavenging undertaken by District Council, what was the annual cost during 1898?—£26.

#### ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890—Parts adopted and date—Part 3, 1897.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890—

What was the amount paid to practitioners under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act during 1898?—21 Notifications (£2 12s. 6d.)

#### BYE-LAWS—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1898?—None.

#### REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.—

Slaughter Houses—Number Registered and Inspected, 2 ; General Condition, fairly satisfactory.

Bakehouses—Number Registered, 1.



Dairies—Number Registered, 1 ; General Condition, not yet opened.

Milkshops—Number Registered, 3 ; General Condition, fairly satisfactory.

Offensive Trades—Number Registered, 1 ; Tallow Chandler ; General Condition, very good.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—None.

Disinfecting Apparatus—

Compensation paid for infected articles destroyed during 1898—

DWELLINGS—

Number of Houses built during 1898—49.

General character—Cottage houses.

Any houses unfit for habitation ?—No.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses ?—Several cases.

Any overcrowding of houses *on area* ?—None observed.

METEOROLOGY—

Mean temperature for year 1898 : no return. Rainfall : 29.25.

GEOLOGY—

Nature of soil—

Subsoil—Millstone grit.

MISCELLANEOUS—

Is House-to-house Inspection systematically made ?—No.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1897, 8 ; at close of 1898, 5 ; Reported during 1898, 24 ; abated during 1898, 19.

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—0.

No. of Sink wastes disconnected during 1898—4.

No. of Sink wastes trapped during 1898—4.

No. of Closets constructed during 1898—54. Kinds—2 water closets, 4 waste-water closets, 48 covered privy middens.

Any diseases peculiarly endemic in the district ?—No.

Any information as to number of deaths from cancer of all kinds during 1898 ?—2 cases.

Any information as to number of deaths from Tabes Mesenterica?—  
No case reported.

Vaccination—General efficiency, Satisfactory.

WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS—

Seizure of Unsound Food—None. Prosecutions—None.

Samples under Sale of Food & Drugs Acts—2. Prosecutions—  
None.

River Pollution—

Smoke Abatement— No. of observations taken—

Inspection of Factories and Workshops—

Schools—No. in District, 2. No. closed on account of outbreaks of  
disease—None.

Total duration of closure from this cause—

Burial Grounds—No. in District, 2. Any need for extension—No.

BIRTHS—Males, 47 ; Females, 38 ; Total 85.

Number Illegitimate, included in the above—No return.

Any information as to Still Births—No.

DEATHS—Males, 25 ; Females, 23 ; Total, 48.

Number uncertified, included in the above—2

RATEABLE VALUE as stated in Valuation List—£14,388 11s. 11d.

VALUE UPON WHICH THE GENERAL DISTRICT RATE IS ASSESSED—

Full Rateable Value (Houses, etc.)—£9,260 9s. 0d.

One-fourth Rateable Value (Land, etc.)—£1,281 18s. 5d.

Rate in the £, 1897—2s. 9d.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT, AND SUGGESTIONS OF MEDICAL  
OFFICER OF HEALTH—

As there is no provision whatever for the accommodation of cases  
of infectious disease should an epidemic occur, the scheme for  
an Isolation Hospital should be carried out with as little delay  
as possible.



M 3.  
(A)

Table of DEATHS during the Year 1898, in the PENISTONE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT,  
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.								MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																						
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up-wards		1	2	3	4	FEVERS.					10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
									Small Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued	Relapsing.	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentry	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries	All other Diseases.	TOTAL	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)																							
PENISTONE ... ..	48	10	6	1	2	18	11	Under 5			3																		4	16	
								5 upwds.																		2	7	7	3	13	32
								Under 5																							
								5 upwds.																							
								Under 5																							
								5 upwds.																							
								Under 5																							
								5 upwds.																							
TOTALS...								Under 5																							
								5 upwds.																							

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.							1	Under 5																						
								5 Upwds.																					1	
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto								Under 5																						
								5 Upwds.																						

Area in Acres—1,133. Population (Last Census)—2550 ; estimated to middle of 1898, 2798. Death Rates—General, 17.5 per 1000 Population, estimated to middle of 1898 ; Infant (under 1 year of age), 117.6 per 1000 Births Registered

M 11. **Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1898, in the PENISTONE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.**  
(B)

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statis- tics ; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all Ages.		Registered Births.	Aged  under 5  or  over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													Number of such Cases removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.													
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1898.			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
					Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Typhus.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Influenza.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Typhus.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	
									Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Enteric or Typhoid.										Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.						
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)																											
PENISTONE ... ..	2550	2798	85	Under 5			4																								
				5 upwds.		5	5			7																					
				Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
				Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
				Under 5																											
				5 Upwds.																											
TOTALS	2550	2798	85	Under 5			4																								
				5 upwds.		5	5			7																					

" Notification of Infectious Disease " is compulsory in the District since 1891.

There is no Isolation Hospital in district.